

Claim Amendments:

1. – 119. (Canceled).

120. (Currently Amended) A home media system comprising:

a home network;

coupled to said home network, a plurality of media devices ~~containing~~ comprising a plurality of different types of ~~media~~ objects comprising media, said plurality of media devices comprising a video device ~~containing~~ comprising video objects, an audio device ~~containing~~ comprising audio objects, and an image device ~~containing~~ comprising image objects;

coupled to said home network, a storage set-top box configured for:

acquiring a plurality of different types of ~~media~~ objects comprising video, audio, and image objects from the plurality of media devices;

storing the plurality of different types of ~~media~~ objects; and

organizing the plurality of different types of ~~media~~ objects based on the type of ~~media~~ object; and

coupled to said home network, a control/playback set-top box configured for:

providing a plurality of media applications comprising a video application for video objects, an audio application for audio objects, and a photo application for image objects;

receiving a first request for a first object;

retrieving, across said home network, said first object from said storage set-top box;

running a first media application for playing a first media in said first

object;

receiving a second request for a second object;

retrieving, across said home network, said second object from said storage set-top box; and

running a second media application for playing a second media in said second object,

wherein said first and second media applications are run simultaneously,

wherein said first and second media are played simultaneously.

~~retrieving, across said home network, media objects from said storage set-top box; and~~

~~playing said media in said retrieved media objects; and~~

~~coupled to said control/playback set top box, a plurality of client devices for presenting said media in said media objects.~~

121. (Previously Presented) The home media system of claim 120, wherein:

said video device comprises a video disc recorder or a digital video disc player;

said audio device comprises a compact disc player; or

said image device comprises a digital camera.

122. (Canceled)

123. (Currently Amended) The home media system of claim 120, wherein said

storage set-top box is further configured for acquiring a plurality of different types of ~~media~~ objects comprising video, audio, and image objects from a content server that is external to said home network.

124. (Currently Amended) The home media system of claim 123, wherein said storage set-top box is configured for acquiring said plurality of different types of ~~media~~ objects from said content server by periodically acquiring said plurality of different types of ~~media~~ objects from said content server based on a user profile.

125. (Canceled)

126. (Currently Amended) The home media system of claim 120, wherein said storage set-top box is further configured for:

discovering and identifying ~~said video~~ a media device when said ~~video~~ media device is powered up;

~~discovering and identifying said audio device when said audio device is powered up; and~~

~~discovering and identifying said image device when said image device is powered up.~~

127. (Canceled)

128. (Canceled)

129. (Currently Amended) The home media system of claim 120, wherein said control/playback set-top box is further configured for receiving, from a remote control, a user request for a particular ~~media~~ object and for extracting a unique identification of the remote control from the user request, said unique identification being used to restrict access to the particular ~~media~~ object.

130. (Currently Amended) The home media system of claim 120, wherein said control/playback set-top box comprises a personal computer system or a personal digital assistant (PDA).

131. (Canceled)

132. (New) The home media system of claim 120, wherein:

said first object comprises a video object and said first media application comprises a video application; and

said second object comprises an audio object and said second media application comprises an audio application.

133. (New) The home media system of claim 120, further comprising:

coupled to said control/playback set-top box, a plurality of client devices comprising a first client device for presenting first media in said first object and a second client device for presenting second media in said second object, wherein said first and second media are presented simultaneously.

134. (New) The home media system of claim 133, wherein said plurality of client devices comprises:

a display client device for presenting a video in said video object or an image in said image object; and

an audio client device for presenting audio in said audio objects.

135. (New) The home media system of claim 134, wherein:

said first media comprises a video or an image presented on said display client device; and

said second media comprises audio presented on said audio client device.

136. (New) A computer-program product comprising a computer readable medium having instructions stored thereon when executed, manage a plurality of media devices coupled with a home network, said plurality of media devices comprising a plurality of different types of objects comprising media, said plurality of media devices comprising a video device comprising video objects, an audio device comprising audio objects, and an image device comprising image objects, said computer-program product comprising sets of instructions for:

acquiring, at a storage set-top box coupled to said home network, a plurality of different types of objects comprising video, audio, and image objects from said plurality of media devices;

storing, at said storage set-top box, said plurality of different types of objects;

organizing said plurality of different types of objects based on said type of object;
providing, at a control/playback set-top box coupled to said home network, a plurality of media applications comprising a video application for video objects, an audio application for audio objects, and a photo application for image objects;
receiving, at said control/playback set-top box, a first request for a first object;
retrieving, across said home network, said first object from said storage set-top box;
running, at said control/playback set-top box, a first media application for playing a first media in said first object;
receiving, at said control/playback set-top box, a second request for a second object;
retrieving, across said home network, said second object from said storage set-top box; and
running, at said control/playback set-top box, a second media application for playing a second media in said second object,
wherein said first and second media applications are run simultaneously,
wherein said first and second media are played simultaneously.

137. (New) The computer-program product of claim 136, further comprising a set of instructions for:

discovering and identifying a media device when said media device is powered up.

138. (New) The computer-program product of claim 136, further comprising sets of instructions for:

receiving, from a remote control, a user request for a particular object;
extracting a unique identification of said remote control from said user request;
and
using said unique identification to restrict access to said particular object.

139. (New) The computer-program product of claim 136, wherein:
said first object comprises a video object and said first media application comprises a video application; and

said second object comprises an audio object and said second media application comprises an audio application.

140. (New) The computer-program product of claim 136, wherein a plurality of client devices are coupled to said control/playback set-top box, said plurality of client devices comprising a first client device for presenting first media in said first object and a second client device for presenting second media in said second object, wherein said first and second media are presented simultaneously.

141. (New) The computer-program product of claim 140, wherein said plurality of client devices comprises:

a display client device for presenting a video in said video object or an image in said image object; and

an audio client device for presenting audio in said audio objects.

142. (New) The computer-program product of claim 141, wherein:

said first media comprises a video or an image presented on said display client device; and

said second media comprises audio presented on said audio client device.

143. (New) A method for managing a plurality of media devices coupled with a home network, said plurality of media devices comprising a plurality of different types of objects comprising media, said plurality of media devices comprising a video device comprising video objects, an audio device comprising audio objects, and an image device comprising image objects, said method comprising:

acquiring, at a storage set-top box coupled to said home network, a plurality of different types of objects comprising video, audio, and image objects from said plurality of media devices;

storing, at said storage set-top box, said plurality of different types of objects;

organizing said plurality of different types of objects based on said type of object;

providing, at a control/playback set-top box coupled to said home network, a plurality of media applications comprising a video application for video objects, an audio application for audio objects, and a photo application for image objects;

receiving, at said control/playback set-top box, a first request for a first object;

retrieving, across said home network, said first object from said storage set-top box;

running, at said control/playback set-top box, a first media application for playing

a first media in said first object;

receiving, at said control/playback set-top box, a second request for a second object;

retrieving, across said home network, said second object from said storage set-top box; and

running, at said control/playback set-top box, a second media application for playing a second media in said second object,

wherein said first and second media applications are run simultaneously,

wherein said first and second media are played simultaneously.

144. (New) The method of claim 143, further comprising:

discovering and identifying a media device when said media device is powered up.

145. (New) The method of claim 143, further comprising:

receiving, from a remote control, a user request for a particular object;

extracting a unique identification of said remote control from said user request;

and

using said unique identification to restrict access to said particular object.

146. (New) The method of claim 143, wherein:

said first object comprises a video object and said first media application comprises a video application; and

said second object comprises an audio object and said second media application comprises an audio application.

147. (New) The method of claim 143, wherein a plurality of client devices are coupled to said control/playback set-top box, said plurality of client devices comprising a first client device for presenting first media in said first object and a second client device for presenting second media in said second object, wherein said first and second media are presented simultaneously.

148. (New) The method of claim 147, wherein said plurality of client devices comprises:

a display client device for presenting a video in said video object or an image in said image object; and

an audio client device for presenting audio in said audio objects.

149. (New) The method of claim 148, wherein:

said first media comprises a video or an image presented on said display client device; and

said second media comprises audio presented on said audio client device.